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Parks and Recreation Minutes 05/14/2002

Park and Recreation Commission Minutes

Tuesday, May 14, 2002 at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVED - Meeting Minutes

The Park and Recreation Commission meeting came to order at 7:30 PM.

Commissioners Present: Don Vitters, Leslie Mayer, Joe Carabello and Mark McCabe

Staff Present: Jon Jalbert, Patsy Kraemer and Bill Jones

Others Present: Paul Olson and MaryAnne Foskett

1. Minutes

The Commission reviewed the minutes of March 12, 2001 and approved 3-0.

2. MaryAnne Foskett- Friends of Menotomy Rocks Park

Ms. Foskett representing the Friends of Menotomy Rocks Park Board stated their Board has voted to donate \$12,000 for improvements to the park. The List dated 5/9/02 was sent to the Town Manager. The Commission stated the same procedures must apply to all projects, where the funds would be deposited into the Park Beautification Fund and the Town would oversee the projects.

Motion was made to support the endeavor by the Friends of Menotomy Rocks Park and to come back to the Park Commission for approval once a contractor is on board. Motion approved 4-0.

3. Rick Arena- Bocce Ball court at Grove Street

Mr. Arena was not present and Mr. Vitters still needs to get the park plans to Mr. Arena. Mr. Jalbert will call Mr. Arena to discuss his attendance at the June meeting. Ms. Mayer presented photographs she took of the area to assist the commissioners.

Mr. Jalbert will point out concerns the commissioners have about the site to Mr. Arena when they speak.

4. Steve Moniak- Arlington Soccer Club concerns on field permitting

Mr. Moniak called and stated that he is not prepared to meet and requested to be put on the June agenda.

Motion was made stating the Park & Recreation Commission support the Superintendent of Recreation's decisions on field permits for the Spring of 2002. Motion approved 4-0.

Motion was made that a letter be written to the ASC Board of Directors from the Park & Recreation Commissioners about the communication process specifically the email chains being not an appropriate avenue of communication. The Park & Recreation Commissioners requested all ASC Board members to be present at the June meeting to discuss improving the communication process and their issues on fields. Motion approved 4-0.

5. Arlington Sports Center Improvement Committee- Jon Jalbert

Mr. Jalbert gave an update Mr. Arthur Ales has removed himself from the committee. The committee has changed their meeting times to Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room.

6. Capital Project Review and CDBG update-Don Vitters

Mr. Leonard sent in status reports on projects he is overseeing. His notes are included in the following.

Thorndike Field- Mr. Machado inspected the field after two days of rain and stated the drainage is working well, he said the field would be playable today. Mr. Machado is using PTS to perform any required aeration. The field overall is in excellent shape. Mr. McCabe suggested that someone else, from the Town, assess the grass before it is turned over to the town.

Parallel Playground- Camdele has completed the required bit. conc. paving. Camdele has not completed the repairs to the base of the seesaw and the ash tree does not look great but is alive. The tree is under a 1-year guarantee and Mr. Leonard will monitor its progress through the summer. According to Mr. Leonard the remainder of the punchlist items from last fall have been completed.

Crosby Playground- The tennis backboard footing has been poured and the block work will start on May 15th. As soon as the masonry is above grade, Emanouil anticipates finishing the paving in that area. The paving needs to be completed before they can sod the field. The plumbing for the irrigation will be completed this week. Emanouil has indicated that the play equipment will be delivered on May 22nd. They will begin the installation of the play equipment the following week. Emanouil will fix the neighbor's fence that was damaged by replacing it with a chain link fence. The project is on schedule with the field to be completed by May 30th and the remainder of the project by June 30th.

ROADS- Ms. Mayer and Mr. Jalbert will be meeting with Mr. Maher to discuss what options we have with this issue.

The commission requested Mr. Bento be present at the June meeting to discuss PTS contract and irrigation.

7. Leslie Mayer- Parkland Deed and Title Search Project

Ms. Mayer began the process and realized how lengthy this process can be. She suggested hiring a small firm who specializes in this area to complete the project. There were some concerns about doing such a project but the Commission agreed to have Ms. Mayer investigate firms and prices to complete such a project.

8. Jon Jalbert- Field Permit Policy

Mr. Jalbert presented a draft of an updated field permit policy that he and Ms. Mayer have been working on. Mr. Olson representing the Finance Committee expressed their concern on funding future park projects when these fields are being over utilized and needing more work just a few years later. The Commission understood Mr. Olson's concern and they are just as concerned. Mr. Jalbert proposed a field rotation policy and a plan to limit use on fields. The Commission expressed their concerns on usage, maintenance, monitoring and enforcement of all fields. The Commission will review the draft policy and make any additional comments prior to June's meeting.

10. Recreation and Rink Update- Jon Jalbert

Mr. Jalbert stated the Town Manager approved the proposed program fee increases.

Mr. Jalbert updated the Commission on the Facilities Manager search. Patsy Kraemer, Caryn Cove and Mr. Jalbert will be on the interview panel.

Mr. Jalbert expressed his concerns on the Res opening. Mr. Jalbert will investigate getting staff and DPW staff trained on the filtration system.

11. Other

Mrs. Mayer presented a letter from the Bishop School PTA which addressed their concerns on the playground. The railroad ties need to be replaced and the tire swing should be replaced. Mr. Jalbert will let DPW know about replacing the railroad ties. The PTA will fundraise to replace the swing structures for 4 new swings.

The Commission adjourned at 11 pm.

Jon Jalbert, Superintendent of Recreation, took minutes

